

Southeast News

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Churches Seeking Answers to Disappearing Members

Three large denominations are wondering what happened to 2 million of their members! The United Methodist Church has seen 1.2 million disappear from its rolls since 1968. The United Presbyterians in the U.S. now list 700,000 fewer than in the late 1960's. The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod has experienced a steady decline since 1971 as has the United Church of Christ for over a decade.

Dr. Martin E. Marty, professor of history of modern Christianity at the University of Chicago suggests several reasons:

1. Demographics — population shifts and trends are reflected in membership loss in a denomination.
2. Many churches across the U.S. experienced fast and artificial growth following WW II. Children of these couples tend to be less committed to church life and programs.
3. Social action commitments by denominational leaders and bureaus cause less active members to withdraw from the church.

Failure by churches to win persons to Christ has been cited most frequently as the one factor in lack of growth for a church and the loss of members who don't understand why they are even members of a church.

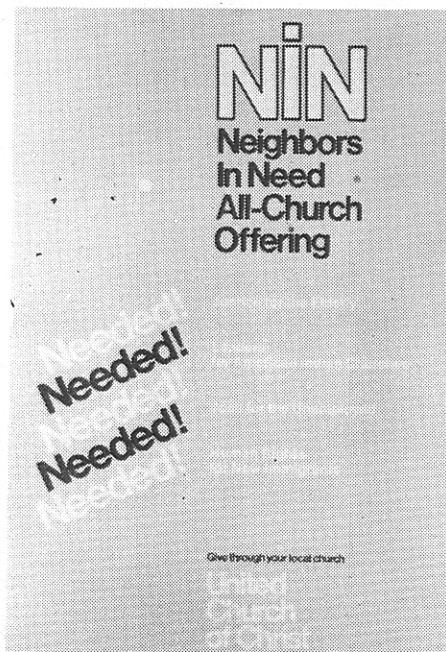
Churches that look inwardly too much and are satisfied with themselves and care little about the community, don't grow.

More lay participation in all aspects of the church life and constant need for training at all age levels is a must for a church to grow.

Longer pastorates is also cited as one of the needs. Pastors generally cannot get to know a congregation and its needs in less than two or three years, after which they are better able to help where there are needs.

Preaching the whole spectrum of the Scriptures is also essential to vitality and maturing of church members.

—Lanett Newsletter



NIN OFFERING SLATED

October 1 is the suggested date for the Neighbors In Need all-church offering. An annual offering of the United Church, NIN provides funds for specialized ministries that otherwise would not be possible. A bulk supply of promotional materials should have arrived in your church office. (If it has not, inform the Stewardship Council, 1505 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102). This year the Promotion Guide for the Neighbors In Need all-church offering will be found in **Key Pak**, a copy of which was sent to every congregation in June.

This year's NIN offering will provide funds for the following programs authorized by the UCC Executive Council:

- Justice for the Elderly, a new program of the Office for Church in Society.

- Leaders for American Indian Churches, a program of the Council for American Indian Ministry.

- Jobs for the Unemployed, a new program of the UCC Board for Homeland Ministries.

- Human Rights for New Immigrants, a new program of the UCC Board for Homeland Ministries.

Please give . . . and give generously!

UCC to Hold National Meeting of Women

Registration is now open for the UCC National Meeting of Women for Leadership Development. The meeting which is sponsored by the UCC Advisory Commission on Women in Church and Society and Office for Church in Society will be held January 10-13th. The theme of the event is "Created in God's Image — Women Empowered for Mission."

The National Meeting Steering Committee has announced that the meeting will focus on general session presentations and individual participation in workshops and forums. There will also be opportunities for special interest groupings.

In addition to Rev. Peggy Way, who is a member of the Southeast Conference and a professor at Vanderbilt Divinity School, some of the many others who will address the assembly are Dr. Barbara Brown Zikmund, UCC President Avery D. Post, Yvonne Delk, and Ms. Ellen Goodman, syndicated columnist from the Boston Globe and CBS Spectrum Reports.

Workshops and Forums will be made possible by UCC national agencies. Some of the choices will be: Women and Power; Welfare and Poverty; Disarmament; Women, Children and Bread; The Laity: We're Not Amateurs; Getting Your Program Together: Conflict Management; Inclusive Worship and Feminist Theology.

The meeting will be held at the Netherland Hilton in Cincinnati, Ohio. Costs at the hotel will vary with accommodations. The committee estimates that \$25-\$30 per day would cover costs for a shared room and meals.

Until October 31st, the registration fee will be \$25 and \$30 after Nov. 1. Some scholarship aid is available. Those interested in further information, registration materials or scholarship forms should contact: Susannah B. Rismann, National Meeting Office, 2719 Marshall Court, Madison, WI 53705.

For information on SEC participation contact Mrs. Milton Hurst c/o Southeast Conference Office, P.O. Box 29883, Atlanta, GA 30359.

Human Sexuality

What's the Fuss?

Have you noticed the increased mention of "human sexuality" in the press and on radio and TV, but said to yourself, "What's the fuss?" Have you seen your church's copy of **Human Sexuality: A Preliminary Study**, but failed to read it or encourage its discussion?

Well then, consider if you will the following facts reported to the Cullman County (AL) Ministerial Association and reported in the St. John's United Church (Cullman) bulletin:

—Cullman County has a serious problem of teen-age pregnancies and venereal disease

—One out of every five pregnancies is a teenager; but in Cullman County one out of every three pregnancies is a teenager

—90 percent of unwed mothers keep their babies

—Two-thirds of teen-age pregnancies are un-intentional

—Seven out of ten teen-age girls who are pregnant don't get any prenatal care in that critical first three months

—A grammar school in north Alabama had an epidemic of gonorrhea

—If unwed pregnant girls do marry, 60 percent of them divorce in six years

—Ten out of twelve child abuse cases in Cullman had a single teen-age parent

Is Cullman County unusual? Answer: not at all! Similar statistics are to be found in just about every community throughout the United States.

The fact is that the "sexual revolution" and the corresponding change in moral values among young people is not a function of sensational journalism, but is only a realistic accounting of a growing change in American moral values.

What is your church doing to understand the problem? What is your church doing to respond to the emotional casualties of these new values? What is your church doing to prevent these problems from growing? A good way to begin is by reading **Human Sexuality: A Preliminary Study** and other pertinent materials that will inform you and other members of your church on how the Christian community is called to respond.

Stewardship Council

Head Wanted

The United Church of Christ is seeking an Executive Secretary to head the Stewardship Council. Present Executive Secretary Dr. Sheldon E. Mackey will retire in February, 1979. All applications and nominations should be sent to: Mrs. Anita Ullman, P.O. Box 165, Highland, Illinois 62249.



REV. NEIL A. MOSLEY

MOSLEY CALLED TO NEW CHURCH START

Rev. Neil A. Mosley, pastor for 12 years of the First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, 421 Habersham Street, Savannah, GA, resigned as pastor, effective August 10, 1978 to move to Jacksonville, Florida to start a new United Church of Christ in Jacksonville.

Rev. Mosley will be working, initially, for the Board of Homeland Ministries of the United Church of Christ and the Florida Conference, UCC.

We wish the Mosleys well and pray God's blessings upon them.

Galts Commissioned For Missionary Service

The First Congregational Church and Pilgrim Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ in Birmingham cooperated in a Commissioning Service for Ralph and Louise Galt who have been assigned by the United Church Board for World Ministries to a teaching mission in Taiwan, the Republic of China. The Commissioning Service was held on Sunday, June 18 at First Congregational Church, UCC in Birmingham.

Participants in the service were: Rev. Henry Tuttle, pastor of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Dr. Arthur Shores, Moderator of First Congregational Church, Rev. S. Lawrence Johnson, Pastor Emeritus of Pilgrim, Rev. Kenneth Manning, Chairman of the Social Action Committee of Pilgrim and Rev. Albert Sloan, Chaplain of Miles College and pastor of the Miles CME Church. Dr. Fred Munson, former medical missionary to

[Continued on Page 4]

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Please double check to insure that the following dates — appropriate to your church program — are on your church calendars:

Sept. 9 — Christian Enlistment Workshop, Tallassee, AL for Southern Alabama Area

Sept. 10 — Youth Core Planning Meeting, Anniston-Oxford, AL Holiday Inn Christian Enlistment Workshop, Cullman, AL for Northern Alabama Area

Sept. 15-16 — Alabama-Tennessee Association Annual Meeting, First Evangelical & Reformed UCC, Nashville, TN

Sept. 23-24 — Mission Seminar, Bonanza UCC, Jonesboro, GA, primarily for GA-SC churches

Sept. 24 — North Alabama Ministers meeting, Pilgrim UCC, Birmingham, AL

Sept. 29-30 — Board of Directors of Uplands, Inc., Pleasant Hill, TN

Sept. 30 — Teacher Training Workshop, Enterprise, AL and Macedonia Church in Braselton, GA

Oct. 1 — World Communion Sunday and Neighbors in Need All-church Offering

Oct. 2 — Executive Committee of SEC and the Christian Church of GA, Atlanta

Oct. 7 — Youth Core, Atlanta North Alabama Association, Jones Chapel, Moulton, AL

Oct. 8 — Teacher Training Workshop for Atlanta Area, First Congregational UCC

Oct. 9-10 — GA Interchurch Association, Dublin, GA

Oct. 14 — South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association, First Church, Adalusia

Teacher Training Workshop, Midway, GA

Oct. 15 — Central Alabama Association Watson's Chapel, Eclectic, AL

Oct. 21 — East Alabama Association, Antioch Church, Roanoke, AL

Oct. 27-28 — Georgia-South Carolina Association, Central Church, Atlanta

Oct. 29 — Reformation Sunday

Nov. 4 — Teacher Training Workshop, Pleasant Hill, TN and Noonday Church in Wedowee, AL

Nov. 5 — Teacher Training Workshop, First Church, Columbus, GA

Nov. 7-8 — Task Force on Criminal Justice (G.I.A.), Macon, GA

Nov. 11 — Teacher Training Workshop, Elder Church, Dadeville, AL and Bethany Church, Thomasville, GA

Nov. 18 — Teacher Training Workshop, St. John's Church, Cullman, AL and Oak Grove Church, Pine Mountain, GA

Nov. 19 — Teacher Training Workshop, Todd Church, Shawmut, AL

LANETT YOUTH 'On the Road'

The youth of Lanett Congregational-Christian UCC were "on the road" August 7-12 traveling to a number of churches and institutions in North Carolina where they presented programs which included handbell music and puppet plays.

Included in the itinerary were stops at Catawba College, the Nazareth Children's Home, Elon Home for Children and three churches.

Besides pastor Rev. Harold Auler and his wife, Virginia, members of the group making the trip were: Beth Williams, Maria Benefield, Barbara Hill, Amy Barber, Christy Robertson, Leigh Ann Ford, Keith Sorrell, Stacey Morris and Steve Welch.

This trip followed presentation of a similar program, which was very well received, at the Southeast Conference Annual Meeting, June 9-11.

Belvidere Church Acts on Goals

How does a church look at itself and plan its ministry for the future? Ask the 120 members of Belvidere United Church in Belvidere, TN. Following church planning sessions led by Mr. and Mrs. George Nixon of our Huntsville, UCC, the Belvidere Church this past March adopted a number of goals to add increased vitality to their church's ministry.

Some of the goals and action taken thus far include:

- A monthly newsletter now in publication

- Membership Outreach which has resulted in contact of inactive and prospective members

- Constitutional Revision which has almost been completed

- Community Outreach resulting in plans in progress for visiting those in nursing homes — a wider geographical listing in the Yellow Pages of the church and programs

- Enriching Worship through implementation of a weekly children's story and learning of new hymns

Sound exciting? What possibilities are there in store for your church? For more details on the planning process and persons especially trained to provide leadership, contact Conference Minister W.J. Andes, Southeast Conference Office, P.O. Box 29883, Atlanta, GA 30359.



FLAVIA BURTON:
Southeast Conference ICYE participant.

ICYE: WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY!

The International Christian Youth Exchange sponsors the exchange of young persons among nations. Its purpose is to further Christian commitment to responsibility for reconciliation, justice, and peace in the world. Each year, 500 high school and older young persons — exchanges from US and 24 other countries — live with host families in a culturally oriented and educational program.

There are two exchanges in our Southeast Conference this year. One is Flavia Burton, from Brookmeade Congregational UCC in Nashville and a member of the SEC Youth Core, who is spending this year with a host family in Germany. The other is Axel Kutter from West Germany, who is living in Atlanta. Axel is already giving service at Grady Hospital in Atlanta, and is looking for an opportunity for advanced study in auditing at a university or college.

Churches sponsor ICYE exchangees and the UCC is one of eleven participating denominations. The local church recruits the host family, pays the fee of \$200 to defray costs for an exchange to come to the community — or pays \$2000 to send a young person abroad and receive one or more exchangees from overseas. The host family becomes the home and family base for a young person to spend a year in this country attending high school and participating in community and church activities, or giving service in service-oriented groups and institutions. The host family provides room, board and a small

Ala-Tenn Youth Plan Program

The Youth Planning Committee of the Alabama-Tennessee Association met at Huntsville United Church on August 19 to evaluate the 1977-78 association-wide youth program and discuss and make plans for the new year. In addition to Mrs. Trudi Sandford, representing the Southeast Conference Youth Core, eleven other youth and adult advisors from four Association churches were in attendance.

The following schedule of camps and conferences were approved:

Oct. 7-8 — Southeast Conference Youth Retreat in Atlanta

Nov. 10-12 — Pop-In at Knoxville Church of the Savior

Jan. 13 — Planning Meeting at Chattanooga Pilgrim

March 2-4 — Pop-In at Belvidere United Church

May 4-6 — Mini-Camp at camping facility near Chattanooga

June 8-10 — Southeast Conference Annual Meeting

In order to improve on last year's program, it was suggested that communications be sent six, four and two weeks ahead of each event. In addition, all youth groups are asked to contribute \$12 per group for mailing costs, to be sent to Association Office, 700 Bresslyn Road, Nashville, TN 37205.

allowance.

Our articulate younger generation is in search of a future in which they may act effectively as advocates for the oppressed and powerless in societies. ICYE seeks first of all to find opportunity for creative participation in this direction. Lifelong friendships have developed across once formidable barriers of language, race and national origin; horizons of thousands of persons have been widened; vocational choices have been clarified; national perspectives have been challenged by visions of a common humanity; denominational loyalties have been broadened to include a discernment of God at work in other churches and in other places; world citizens have been born.

Now is the time of year to learn more details about ICYE. Detailed information and application blanks can be obtained from Coordinator, Area 19, ICYE, Trudi Sandford, 5855 Mitchell Road, NW, Atlanta, GA 30329 — or from ICYE, US Committee, 74 Trinity Place, Room 610, NY, NY 10006.

What Is TV Doing to Us?

Your TV set is on six hours a day if you are an average viewing family. If you have children, they are exposed to the teaching and influence of TV 20-25 hours of this time each week. By the time they graduate from high school they will have been exposed to 15,000 hours of TV and will have spent only 11,000 hours in the classroom, according to Action for Children's Television. In one survey by the National PTA in 1975-76 it was argued that this exposure:

- contributes to aggressive behavior among the young;
- incites young people to violent acts and imitation of violence they see;
- makes viewers less sensitive to real-life tragedy — the idea of killing people becomes very easy;
- makes persons who view TV violence regularly more fearful of real life;
- fosters a distorted perception of problem solving techniques and distorts the sense of values.

As parents and as adults we can do several things:

1. Develop play areas away from the television set.
2. Select programs you want your children to watch. When watching with them comment on issues that come up and help interpret relationships to them and for them.
3. Organize alternative activities for them.
4. Don't use TV as a "baby-sitter" — take time to teach children how to play and to be resourceful.
5. Adults, take more time to read good things — stimulate your thinking instead of wanting to be entertained so much of the time — as TV has tempted all of us to do.

Lanett CC, UCC Church

NOON DAY CHURCH CELEBRATES

A celebration was held on July 30 to mark the 79th anniversary of the founding of Noon Day Church, Wedowee, AL. Attending the celebration were a number of former pastors and special guests including Conference Minister, W.J. Andes.

Established in 1899, the Church has produced five ministers: Jimmie French, Joe French, Marvin Pollard, W. Millard Stevens and Bill Joe Traylor; and one full-time Christian worker, Lois Calhoun.

With building programs in 1902, 1929 and 1954, the church moved into its newest building in 1975 under the pastorate of Rev. Bernard Fuller. The church presently has 78 members.

Barton Chapel Celebrates

Barton Chapel, UCC in Robins, TN conducted Revival Services April 9-12 with the Rev. John Lackey of the Church of the Savior, Knoxville, preaching each night. Several local gospel singing groups were present through the week to share with us the good news in song.

Each evening proved greatly inspiring as the preaching and the singing were excellent. Attendance was good, averaging 30 nightly, as John filled us and taught of "The Many Splendored Love of God." One evening we thought that John had us on fire with the Spirit as the sanctuary filled with smoke, but it turned out to be a problem with the coal furnace.

Upon concluding Barton Chapel's first revival services in 20 years, John good naturedly stated that he wants better lighting for his failing eyes and that he wants those trains stopped before he is invited back! We can fix the lights, but those trains might be a problem!

Mark Frey, Pastor

Galts Commissioned . . .

[Continued from Page 2]

Africa and India, represented the Board for World Ministries of the United Church of Christ and delivered the charge to the Galts. Participants in the service from the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ were Dr. William J. Andes, Conference Minister and Rev. Warren A. Blankenhorn, Association Conference Minister. Rev. Arvin Sexton, pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church of Birmingham represented the Presbyterians.

The Galts will be teaching at Yu-Shan Theological College in Taiwan which prepares ministers to serve an oppressed minority of Taiwanese people. The curriculum includes courses in agriculture and sociology as well as theology.

A reception in honor of Dr. and Mrs. John Monro followed the Commissioning Service, sponsored by the Men's Fellowship, the Women's Fellowship and the Angola Guild of First Congregational Church. The reception was to recognize the contributions of Dottie and John Monro to the life of First Congregational Church and the City of Birmingham during their years of service at Miles College. Dr. Monro has resigned from Miles College and will be teaching at Tougaloo College in Mississippi, another educational institution of the United Church of Christ in the South.

Rev. R. Gary Peters Dies

The Rev. Gary Peters, 48, passed away on April 12, 1978 of terminal brain cancer. His illness was brief, only one and a half months. Mr. Peters was ordained on December 25, 1962 in the Christian Church, LaBelle, Florida. He was a member of the Southeast Conference and had served as assistant pastor at First United Church of Columbus, GA. He gave freely of his time to the Children's Home Service as a practicing clinical psychologist and counselor. Mr. Peters had published numerous articles on learning. At the time of his death, he was co-director of Educational Psychological Services of Columbus, GA.

BLACKWOOD OBSERVES HOMECOMING

Homecoming Day was observed at the Blackwood Congregational-Christian Church, Headland, AL on May 7, 1978. The new pastor, Eugene Henderson, preached and the church choir, under the direction of Rusty Ellis, led the music.

Eugene Henderson is a second-year student at the Baptist Bible Institute in Graceville, Florida. He and his wife now live in the parsonage.

After lunch in the Community House, an afternoon singing session was held. Not only was the History of the church shared, but also the reports of the Sunday School and the Treasurer of the church.

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INTRODUCING: BACK BAY MISSION

Legal Services: Mission in South Mississippi

What do you get when you mix fresh shrimp dinners, legal and health services for the poor, a well known youth work camp program and direct food and clothing assistance — all together? Why, Back Bay Mission, of course!

An historic homeland ministry of the United Church of Christ, Back Bay Mission is located in Biloxi, MS where it has served families of fishermen and other low income groups for decades.

Today, Back Bay Mission bases its work on the priorities of the UCC General Synod. Related to the South Central Conference, the Mission is led by Director, Rev. David Stephens and Assistant Director, Rev. Bruno Schroeder. Rev. Stephen's wife, Karlyn, is also an integral part of the leadership team and is joined by the Mission's secretary and professional social worker. Located in a state that does not have a single UCC congregation Back Bay Mission is too busy to be lonely, ministering to the coastal residents of a state that has historically demonstrated little concern for its poor.

In response, Back Bay Mission serves its community in several different ways. One of its best known programs is the Youth Workcamp Program, a spring and summer program offering UCC youth groups an opportunity to learn about poverty, serve others, and observe and participate in the work of the church in society. Usually booked by church youth groups a year in advance, the Workcamp Program provides carefully supervised work, eight hours a day, for five straight days on the homes of the elderly and other under-and-unemployed persons. Each youth group prepares its own meals and lives in the mission's comfortable building. Workcamps are usually topped off by a shrimp feast and a trip to New Orleans.

Back Bay Mission also maintains a Thrift Shop where it distributes clothing and other assistance. Through the auspices of its social worker, the Mission offers counseling and referral services on a one-to-one basis with needy persons in the community.

But Back Bay Mission also does more. Recognizing the need for community service and social change, the Mission has become a leader in challenging public attitudes and improving existing service programs. In addition to its initiation of South Mississippi Legal Services, the Mission came to recognize that a large proportion of Biloxi's community had inadequate health care. In response, the Mission initiated "Biloxi Health and Social Services, Inc." which has been funded by HUD and HEW. On August 1, 1978, following extensive renovation of what used to be a store, a clinic will be open and will be staffed by an M.D., an R.N., a nurse



Karlyn and Director Rev. David Stephens, standing in the nearly completed Community Health Clinic initiated by Back Bay Mission.

practitioner, a dentist, dental hygienist and other supportive staff.

Want to learn more? Why not invite David and Karlyn Stephens to your church for one of their famous "Shrimp Boil-Mission Interpretation Dinners." Twice a year the Stephens leave Biloxi with ½ ton of iced-down shrimp and prepare dinners in 5 or 6 locations. Following the dinner the Stephens show and tell the Back Bay Mission Story.

Interested? Write: Back Bay Mission, 424 Chartres Street, Biloxi, MS 39503.

Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi, is a community ministry of the South Central Conference of the United Church of Christ. Over the years, Back Bay Mission has also received the solid support of our United Church Board for Homeland Ministries and has received support of various projects from our Commission for Racial Justice.

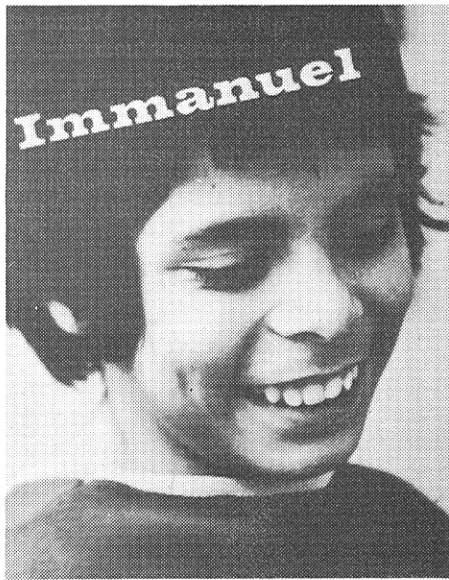
David Stephens, the director of Back Bay Mission, has been especially concerned about the lack of legal aid for the poor in Biloxi and Southern Mississippi. Progress on this came slowly, first the identification of other persons who shared this concern, then in 1975, the development of a proposal for a six county area. The result: Southern Mississippi Legal Services Corp., an organization that employs a director and six staff attorneys, located in Biloxi, Gulfport, and Pascagoula. The proposal was initially funded for one year at a cost of \$225,000. With the help of CRJ, South Mississippi Legal Service now has a van in which to carry a lawyer out into the field to give legal advice to people in rural Southern Mississippi.

An example of one of a variety of ways that the church can reach out to help those in need, this effort along with a number of other programs of Back Bay Mission is

[Continued on Page 6]



(l-r) Rev. Bruno Schroeder and Rev. David Stephens, Asst. Director and Director of Back Bay Mission which helped to start the South Mississippi Legal Service.



"Immanuel"

What's New For Christmas?

Someone is always asking that question, someone who is hunting a good, new audio-visual for use at Christmas time.

This year, try "Immanuel"! "Immanuel" is a dramatic filmstrip intended to help persons to discover the impact of Christmas on their own life experiences. This 13 minute filmstrip with cassette is the story of Immanuel, whose best friend is in bed during the Christmas season. In an effort to cheer his friend, Immanuel wants to buy the "perfect gift." He finds it but can't afford it. Embarrassed because he has nothing to give he nevertheless goes to his friend's home and learns that it is not a present but his presence that makes a real Christmas gift.

"Immanuel" comes with a brief guide for introducing the filmstrip and for leading a discussion with viewers after they have seen it. To purchase "Immanuel" (\$15), write the Office for Audio-Visuals at 1505 Race Street, PA 19102, or phone (215) 568-5750.

When you order "Immanuel," consider also two other widely used Christmas filmstrips: "Let All The World Rejoice" is a 15-minute color filmstrip with record that talks about the meaning of Christmas (price: \$12); "Tidings of Joy" is a 12-minute color filmstrip with record that relates the mission of the church to the meaning of Christmas through the use of a cartoon story. Order these also from the Office for Audio-Visuals.

NEWS and NOTES

Rev. Andres Cooper, former pastor of First Congregational Church, UCC in Birmingham, has been appointed Deputy Commissioner of Prisons for the State of Alabama — the first black man ever to hold the position.

Ray and Grace Reph, members of Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC in Chattanooga, spent a weekend in the Morgan Scott parish. On Saturday evening, Ray called a square dance in Robbins and on Sunday he sang solos the Deer Lodge and Barton Chapel Congregational Churches.

In response to the awareness of needs of handicapped persons, Belvidere United Church of Christ has built a concrete ramp to provide access to the church through the Fellowship Hall. The men of the church also extended the sidewalk into the parking area.

The Women of the Church of First Evangelical & Reformed, UCC in Nashville have undertaken the project of collecting labels from Campbell soup or other Campbell products. The Morgan-Scott Project redeems these labels for equipment for Plateau Home School.

Mr. Herschel Franks, a member of Pilgrim Congregational UCC in Chattanooga, was recently elected as judge of the Court of Appeals, Eastern Division of Tennessee. Mr. Franks is also a member of the SEC Board of Directors.

St. John's United Church, Cullman, AL, in order to facilitate fellowship, has divided the congregation into 12 visitation groups. The groups will meet once a week for four weeks for Bible study and fellowship.

The Alabama-Tennessee Association will examine Ms. Ann Day for her fitness for ordination in the Christian Ministry in an Ecclesiastical Council to be held on September 10, 1978 at First Evangelical & Reformed UCC in Nashville.

Legal Service . . .

[Continued from Page 5]

made possible through your generous giving to Our Christian World Mission. Through your support, the church can continue to realize St. Paul's observation that "Where one organ suffers, all suffer together. If one flourishes, they all rejoice together."

— 6 —

Jones-Hall

The marriage of Jill Maxine Jones to John Wade Hall took place on Sunday, July 2, 1978 at the Pleasant Hill Community Church in Tennessee. Members of both families shared in the service with Walter Hall, father of the groom, conducting the marriage service.

Antioch Shares News

Antioch Congregational Church, Andalusia, AL, joined with the Nazarene Church for Bible School. Average attendance was 41 per day. A program for the parents and friends of participating children was held, followed by refreshments. The first Sunday in July is Homecoming. This will be a happy occasion with much remembering, and sharing of good food and fellowship.

—Bernice Carter, Reporter

Viola and T.C. Braun, editors of the *Courier* — a monthly newsletter of the Pleasant Hill Community Church — recently retired from this position. In response an appreciation party was held in their honor. The Brauns have served as editors since 1971.

Brookmeade Congregational UCC in Nashville will hold a special 25th Anniversary Celebration the weekend of October 21-22, 1978. Former ministers Revs. Clyde Flannery and Donald Orander, and SEC Minister William Andes will be present.

The Morgan-Scott Project needs: an M.D. to assist with the 2 county case load; a lawyer for the Equal Justice Team; a math-science teacher for the Plateau Home School. For more information, write: Morgan-Scott Project, Route 1, Box 32, Lancing, TN 37770.

St. John's United Church, Cullman, AL, has voted to purchase apartments located immediately behind the church property for \$150,000. On the following Sunday \$17,000 was pledged for the project and much of it was collected.

The three United Churches in Nashville — Howard, First and Brookmeade — are working cooperatively on a Prison Ministry Program to provide educational materials for use by prisoners. A goal of \$1,500 has been set by the three churches to fund this program.